

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates. The cable ownership

cap is a crucial element of our democratic media, and it should not be weakened.

Freedom of speech is a safeguard of democracy. For freedom of speech to occur a number of criteria need to be met, among them - diversity of outlets for expression.

For-profit, private media conglomerates are not devoid of political interests, which will impact the content of their broadcasting - suppressing some and exaggerating others.

For this reason regulatory safeguards are necessary to ensure that citizens can express and be exposed to diversity.

The First Amendment does not apply to the rights of companies to own the media, it applies to the right of each citizen to have access to media. This implies that the First Amendment would require diversity of ownership enabled by federal regulations.